

FIRST KNOT BROKEN

COURT ASKED TO SET ASIDE WICHITA'S FIRST MARRIAGE

Hanna Ward Asks to be Divorced From Her Husband, John Ward—Was Married in Wichita in 1868 Before Sedgwick County was Organized—Got the License in Butler County—The House in Which They Were Married Stood East of the Packing House—Old Settlers are Sorry the Suit was Commenced.

Hanna Ward yesterday filed in the district court a suit for divorce from her husband, John Ward.

Some of the old settlers talked in groups around the court house and a reporter for the Eagle wondered what they could be in an ordinary divorce case to interest them.

When the files were obtained it was plain to be seen why the old settlers were interested in the case. In the body of her petition Mrs. Ward set up that she and the defendant were married in Wichita, Dec. 6, 1868.

The old settlers said that Mr. and Mrs. Ward were the first couple ever married in Wichita and they did not want to have the primitive history of the city spoiled by a divorce.

One old settler said that he did not want John and Anna Ward divorced for fear that superstitious people would think there was some fatality attending people who were married in Wichita because the first couple married in the town had been divorced.

People in all ages have been superstitious in regard to the influence of the stars and planets upon the destinies of those whose marriages are celebrated in the city at the junction of the two rivers which the Indians for ages believed was a charmed spot of earth where cyclones and disasters could not come and therefore they desired that Anna could not have her divorce.

Judge Reed may take a different view of it, but the old settler's mind is made up and while he does not take a deep interest in divorce cases generally he has made up his mind that the happiness of these two people who were the first to be joined in wedlock in Winslow, Kansas is something which concerns the honor of the city itself.

A reporter for the Eagle called at the Ward home yesterday at 830 North Wichita in search of information concerning the first couple married in Wichita.

The home is a comfortable cottage surrounded by a picket fence that encloses five or six lots. A row of maple trees spread a cool shade over the sidewalk, in front of the house was surrounded by fruit trees in the branches of which the birds were singing their cheerful songs and two little girls, apparently 10 or 12 years old, were talking under the branches of an apple tree.

The merry laugh of the two little girls rang out on the clear air and so far as outside appearances indicated there was nothing but sunshine and happiness in the little home.

A rap on the front door was answered by the larger of the two little girls telling her mother who was evidently in the back yard, that a gentleman was at the front door. A good looking well preserved woman came through the house and stood in front of the wire screen and waited for the reporter to speak.

"Is this Mrs. Ward?"

"Yes, sir," said the woman, pleasantly.

"I see you have filed a suit for divorce in which you state that you were married in Wichita in 1868. The Eagle would like to know something about those early days, and about your marriage."

"Yes, sir, we were married here in 1868 on the 6th day of December."

"There were no county records here then. Where did you get a license?"

"We got our license at Dorado in Butler County and Judge Timmons who was at that time probate judge of Butler county came over here and married us."

"In what part of the city were you married?"

"This question caused Mrs. Ward to smile, and she said: 'There was no city here.'"

"My father, Dr. Lowellen, had a ranch or trading post on Chisholm creek just east of where the packing houses now stand. He had a house with four rooms and we were married there. There were no houses down in this part of the city then. Mr. Durdan had a ranch on the Little river just above the Woodman place and he was our nearest neighbor."

"Was not Uncle Bill Greifenstein here then?"

"I guess he had been here, but I had never seen him at that time. I do not think he lived here then. All the country round was covered with prairie grass and there was only an occasional tree."

"Have you lived here ever since you were married?"

"Yes, ever since."

"Your husband at home, Mrs. Ward?"

"Yes, sir, he is here in the house," she said, but Mr. Ward did not come to the door.

When the reporter told Mrs. Ward good day and thanked her for her kindness she expressed the hope that she and her husband would make up and live happily again.

The tears twinkled on her eyelashes and dropped on her cheeks at this suggestion, but the good woman made no reply.

HE LOVED JIM DOSS

FLORAL WREATH SENT TO HIS FUNERAL BY UNKNOWN PERSON.

Friends Unable to Identify Him in Any Way—Presumably the Same Person Fenced His Grave, Adorned It With Green Sod and Fairly Covered It With Flowers on Decoration Day Greatly to the Surprise of His Friends—The Expensive Wreath Was Sent From Wichita—Probably a Pretty Romance.

The death of the late Jim Doss at El Reno has developed a rather pretty mystery which the good people of that town are quite curious about.

The secret of the mystery is lodged in the breast of some Wichita man or woman.

Jim was a dashing cowboy who had the nerve and courage of a warrior of old and recently his friends have been putting this and that together with the result, perhaps, that one of those delightful romances for which the great plains are noted will be woven around his life.

Every reader of the Eagle will remember when he was killed a few months ago. At the time no particular attention was paid to it. He was simply a cowboy and he was killed. Shortly before his death he was married to a lovely young girl, but the public did not know that. It was a genuine case of true love and Jim was devoted to his bride.

Well, to make a long story short, Jim, after being killed, was laid out and the funeral was to be held on the second day of June.

Shortly before the remains were taken from his home to the cemetery a messenger boy from the express company was admitted to the house of the dead and to the astonishment of all he laid a wreath of roses on the casket. It was probably the finest floral tribute ever in Oklahoma.

The boy vanished and there was not a card or name to indicate by whom it was sent. It was made from the flowers of the country and the following words were woven in illies: "Another Cowboy has Passed On to the Hereafter."

The friends of the dead man began to make inquiries. All they could find out is that it was made in a Wichita and the building of the link between Mulvane and Dodge City would shorten the route to western Kansas about 60 miles, thus shortening the haul and making freights cheaper. The benefit to the intervening country would be widespread but more particularly in the fact that the western counties could reach the market of the grain immigration that will soon, undoubtedly set in toward this country.

"You people here and we follow out in Dodge," said he, "ought to get together and boost this movement. It would be a good thing for us, a good thing for Wichita and a great thing for the intervening country. Dodge City could become a central railroad point and the wholesale trade of Wichita could be extended farther west by far than it now goes, for the reason that the building of the link between Mulvane and Dodge City would shorten the route to western Kansas about 60 miles, thus shortening the haul and making freights cheaper. The benefit to the intervening country would be widespread but more particularly in the fact that the western counties could reach the market of the grain immigration that will soon, undoubtedly set in toward this country."

"We had four inches of rain out our way and the crop prospects have revived to an astonishing degree. Everything is beginning to look fine again and the people are more cheerful. The vitality of our country is wonderful. It may be dry for months and everything apparently dead but when a good rain comes life is infused into the soil and vegetation develops greater than ever. It may seem singular to you, but the very best wheat we have in our section is that growing on new land. The soil acts as a kind of a mulch and retains the moisture."

He speaks highly of the alfalfa crops and regards it as one of the greatest crops that can be grown in western Kansas. If sown in the low lands it is impossible for drought to kill the roots or to dry down the surface. There is a large acreage of alfalfa in Ford county this year and it makes the prairie look like a garden as it is one of the prettiest crops that grow.

WHITE SIGNALS AND A CLEAR TRACK

Headlights, Frogs, Switches, Cross-overs, Semaphores, Targets and Hand-Signals.

General Superintendent H. U. Mudge, Superintendent G. J. Hartman, Trainmaster Hawk and General Foreman Cross are out on an inspection of the southern division south of Arkansas City.

This talk of the Chicago and Galveston fast train on the Santa Fe going over the Florence branch and not by Wichita, is not true. The only trains that will be discontinued on the new time table will be No. 41, leaving here at 7:50 a. m., and No. 42, arriving at 5:00 p. m. They will go over the Florence branch to Arkansas City. Trains No. 43 and No. 44 will pass through Wichita just the same, the time will be changed only a little.

L. B. Jones, relief agent for the southern division on the Santa Fe, is in the city. L. B. is a great boy and enjoys getting back to Wichita after being gone for forty days at some small station.

Mike Connell, that genial roadmaster of the Santa Fe, was in the city yesterday making an inspection of the yards.

A few days ago all the superintendents of the Santa Fe met in Topeka on time card business, and as it was an annual occasion, they had their photographs taken in a group. They had to send to Chicago to get a large camera, as they had none in Topeka, enough to get Superintendent Hartman's legs in the picture.

Billy Tagg is the maddest man in town. He was called up to the telephone over 100 times yesterday to tell what the fare was to Dallas.

Superintendent Webb of the Missouri Pacific has been in the city. Judge Lauck residence, corner Thirtieth and Fairview avenue.

Since putting on their Sunday service in the territory, the Hook and ladder company have made no mistake, as the trains are paying a very nice revenue.

D. H. Rhodes, general foreman of the Wichita and Western, is on an inspecting tour of the road.

Superintendent Tracey of the Missouri Pacific is in El Dorado.

W. H. Norris, chief dispatcher at Conway Springs, has gone east on a pleasure trip.

All members of Warwick Lodge No. 44, and of Wichita Lodge No. 189, K. of P., are requested to assemble at Castle hall at 1:30 p. m., today, to attend the funeral of the wife of Brother F. W. Gackebach, which will take place from the residence at 2 o'clock p. m. today.

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MYSTERY OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE IS BEING UNRAVELED.

One Who Was Acquainted With the Family Gives Some History—Roy Timmons is a Good Boy but There is a Possibility That He May Have Become Insane—His Mother is an Insane Asylum—Roy's Father Was in the Habit of Cleaning Out the Ranch When He Got a Drop Too Much.

What has become of Roy Timmons is the question of the day here, asked on the street and the number of solutions of the mystery about equals the number of those who have become interested in solving it.

It was at first suggested that he had run away. But those who advanced that idea could not assign any motive for such an act when there was a good job at his disposal here.

The theory of suicide or murder was advanced with a good deal of assurance but the fellows who refused to accept the theory of murder or suicide demanded of the fellows who advanced it to produce the body and that they as yet are unable to do. This has to a certain extent, rendered the suicide or murder theory unpopular.

Then there were a few knowing ones who said Roy Timmons had committed some offense against the laws of his country and like a guilty one he was hiding from those who were not pursuing him, but this theory was nipped in the bud as it was by people who have for years been acquainted with Roy Timmons, for they say his integrity was beyond question.

The most plausible theory yet advanced was yesterday suggested by one who is acquainted with Roy Timmons and the history of his family. The gentleman is Mr. L. P. Cochran, clerk in the Wichita postoffice.

"I have known Roy Timmons for a long time," said Mr. Cochran, yesterday. "I met his wife's father, who was a very good man, and he was a very good man. Roy Timmons has always been considered a good boy and it is hard to conceive any motive for his conduct here. I will, however, give you a little piece of family history that may help to solve the problem of his disappearance."

"Roy Timmons' father was given to drink and he was nervous and excitable. When drinking he would abuse his family and on occasions run them from home with a butcher knife in his hand threatening vengeance on the whole family."

"The neighbors claim that his abuse drove his wife insane and she is now in an insane asylum. Timmons claimed that his wife was subject to periods of insanity before he married her, but this his neighbors deny."

"I do not say that Roy Timmons became suddenly insane and is at this very moment wandering about the country, but you see we can not tell what tendencies he may have inherited."

"I am satisfied that Roy Timmons is an honest boy and his actions in this case are hard to understand. I am of the opinion that he is not to be blamed for this when the whole facts in connection with the disappearance is understood."

CITY IN BRIEF

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Miss Helen Newcomb of Springfield, Mo., is visiting in the city.

Miss Lillian McCandless of Ashland is in the city visiting Miss Louis Bone.

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A pile of school laws in Kansas, the work of the last legislature, have been received by County Clerk Carvin, and justices and township trustees are invited to call on his hands.

Wichita Division No. 2, U. R. K. of P., will attend the funeral of Mrs. Gackebach at 2 p. m., today. They are requested to meet at their hall at 1:30 in fatigue uniforms.

A Gypsum township Republican asks the county central committee why Gypsum township is not to be represented at the coming Republican convention. See appointment of delegates in Weekly Eagle.

The revenue officers are hot on the trail of the people who peddle cigars and tobacco on the streets without having completed the necessary laws. There are several such in Wichita and they will come to grief.

The High school class of '95 will meet at the High school building at 9 o'clock this morning to attend in a body, the commencement exercises at Lewis academy. Seats will be reserved for the entire class and all are urged to be present.

State Labor Commissioner Bird always arrives in Wichita on time. The first time he came here he prevented a fire at the quarry here and this time he stopped runaway teams and which the driver of a lady and two children were in peril.

M. Musil, a well-known citizen of Bartlesville, is in the city the guest of his friend, Colonel Huttman. He reports a three inch rain in the central part of the state, which has revived the spirits of the people as well as business.

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AT Cash Henderson's

All the beauties pictured in the mind of the weaver—delicate shades, perfect figures, blended colors—and the honesty of the factory's established name are items that make our north window display of Mulls, Organ-dies, Dimities and Swisses the finest ever exhibited in the city. Some are in five, some ten yard lengths; some worth 25c, some 35c and some 45c a yard, but next Saturday we make one great, never-equalled special on them at only 5c a yard. Don't look at the window if you don't want to attend this sale, for you can't keep away when you've seen the goods.

The close rival of the north window is our south window of beautiful new style Challies. You'll see the crowd buying them. Inquire the prices; they're a half lower than you'd expect.

Mattings, Carpets and Curtains—We're always finding some new excuse for selling them lower here. Remember this week means money in your pocket if you buy

AT Cash Henderson's

YOU WISH

to buy goods of genuine quality at lowest possible prices. We answer that wish.

If proof is needed, come and see our

Fine Black Worsted Dress Suits for \$7.00.

All Wool Business Suits for \$4.00.

Fine Cassimere Pants for \$2.00.

Laundried Negligee Shirts for 35c.

Fine Colored Shirts with extra collars and cuffs for 50c.

Good Knee Pants for 15c.

C. M. JONES.

Chapman & Walker.

Moved!

Corsets and Corset Waists

The best qualities. The best styles. Popular prices.

P. T. Thompson's Glove Fitting Ball's Kabo, Ferris Waists,

and many good ones at lower prices.

Our stock is complete with every make that will give satisfaction and wear to the user.

Just in.

Summer Corsets at 39c. 50c and \$1.00.

139 N. Main St.

Remember we have moved to 126 North Main Street (BRADFORD'S OLD STAND) We purchased the Bradford stock at 40 Cents on the Dollar and are selling goods at ridiculously low prices—less than one-half manufacturers' cost.

Our line is complete in both men's and ladies' goods.

126 N. MAIN

BONED TRILBY.

The Daintiest Dish.

Ready prepared for luncheon or picnic. A trial will convince you that there's nothing like them. You get them, fresh, at

C. I. FULLER, 202 E. Doug. GROCEER. Phone 35

Fine Tailoring. Moderate Prices

It is the fashion, just now, to offer some extraordinary inducements to purchasers, but shrewd buyers are not often caught by such schemes. Men who wear good clothes know they can't be produced for less than the cost of honest material. And while our prices are always reasonable, our quality is always first-class. We are now offering a special sale of our finest goods at 50% off the regular price. This is a rare opportunity and we urge you to take advantage of it while it lasts.

MILLER & HULL, Tailors and Drapers, 206 East Douglas

F. W. Swab SHOULD BE YOUR Tailor. 105 N. MAIN WICHITA, KAN.

PEARCE FURNITURE 65 F. Doug.

GOLDEN EAGLE JUNE CLEARING SALE NOW IN FULL BLAST.

These elegant tailor-made suits, worth \$15, \$18 and \$20. June Clearing Sale Price \$10.00

These Suits which are sold for \$5, \$8, \$10 and \$12. June Clearing Sale Price \$4.50 \$6.50 and \$8

Our entire stock of Furnishing Goods, Hats and Shoes will be sold in the same proportion. Don't buy until you have VISITED THE BIG STORE.

GOLDEN EAGLE.

Advertisers of Facts Set Poles. 226 E. Douglas, cor. Lawrence

Weak All Over

Is the condition of thousands in hot weather, especially if the blood is thin and impure and the system poorly nourished. By taking Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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